

February 19, 2016
Maine Milk Commission Meeting Minutes
Deering Building, Room 233
Augusta, Maine 04333

Notices for the February 19, 2016 meeting were distributed to Commission members, intervenors and other interested parties on January 22, 2016 and sent to the Secretary of State's Office for posting on January 22, 2016.

Commission Present: Mike Wiers, Colon Durrell, Richard Cook, Matt Randall and Stanley Millay

Commission Absent: None

Department Officials: None

Staff Present: Tim Drake, Executive Director, Betty Farr, Resource Administrator and Carol Gauthier, Office Associate

Legal Counsel: Absent

Others Present: John Blake, H.P. Hood, Julie-Marie Bickford, MDIA, Jim Lesser of Oakhurst Dairy, Clayton Davis, DFA/DMS; Also Jacob Bickford, and Mary Frank members of the public.

Chairman Wiers called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

Agenda Item 1: Minutes: Colon Durrell made a motion to accept the minutes of the January 22, 2016 meeting as presented. Richard Cook seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

Agenda Item 2: Lauren Parker, Assistant Attorney General:

Agenda Item 3: Minimum Prices:

Tim Drake reported a prevailing premium of \$1.10/cwt. on Class I for March 2016, Dairy Marketing Services (DMS). In addition to this premium, DMS reported that an additional \$0.43/cwt for milk that comes from producers who do not treat their cows with the rBST hormone will be in effect. Agri-Mark reported total premiums remain unchanged for March. Federal Order One Class I price for March is \$17.03, an increase of \$0.14/cwt. He explained that a schedule was prepared using this information plus a producer cost of production adjustment (COPA) of \$1.45/cwt. He stated that this price schedule was for informational purposes and that the Commission was not bound to it, and should make their pricing determination after hearing testimony.

Chairman Wiers asked for testimony.

Julie Marie Bickford thanked the commission members for increasing the producer margin last month and that she hoped the increase in the Class I price was the start of a trend as there is continued financial pressure on Maine dairy farms.

Stan Millay then made a motion to accept order #03-16 with a producer margin of \$1.45/cwt. and a Commission premium of \$1.53/cwt.

Colon Durrell seconded the motion.

Chairman Wiers called for a vote on the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

Agenda Item 4: Maine Monthly Price Survey: The Commission reviewed the Maine price survey for February 2016 which showed retail prices for Augusta, Brunswick, Topsham, Bangor, Brewer, South Portland, Scarborough, Saco and Biddeford. The IAMCA survey for December was also reviewed.

Agenda Item 5: Next Scheduled Meetings:

- March 24, 2016, 10:30 a.m.
Room 233, Department of Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry, Augusta ME
- April 21, 2016, 10:30 a.m.
Room 233, Department of Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry, Augusta ME
- May, 19, 2016, 10:30 a.m.
Room 233, Department of Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry, Augusta ME
- June 23, 2016, 10:30 a.m.
Room 233, Department of Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry, Augusta ME

Agenda Item 6: Other:

- A. **Monthly Financial Report:** The FY 16 report was reviewed.
- B. **GEA report:** Tim Drake reported that the report had been presented to the ACF Committee and that a letter from that committee had been received recommending no changes to the Milk Commission statute.

Agenda Item 7: Executive Session: None

Adjourned: Adjourned; 10:40 a.m. February 19, 2016.
Tim Drake, Maine Milk Commission